

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A therapeutic composition for treating skin diseases comprising:  
a substantially pure powder of a fresh water sponge<sub>1</sub> ~~of the species~~ *Spongilla lacustris*<sub>1</sub> and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, wherein said therapeutic composition comprises approximately 50% to 60% insoluble material of said substantially pure powder of *Spongilla lacustris*.
2. (CANCELLED)
3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The composition according to claim 1<sub>1</sub> wherein said skin disease is selected from the group consisting of acne vulgaris, rosacea, seborrheic dermatitis, atopic dermatitis, psoriasis, photo-aging and actinic keratosis.
- 4-6. (CANCELLED)
7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The composition according to claim 1<sub>1</sub> wherein said *Spongilla lacustris* is harvest from the Arstrakian region of the Russian Federation.
- 8-23. (CANCELLED)
24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The composition of claim 1<sub>1</sub> wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable excipient is selected from the group consisting of water, glycerin, gels, oils, waxes, emollients, cleansers, fragrances, antiseptics, anesthetics, seaweed powder, coral powder, hydrogen peroxide, enzyme gel, jojoba oil and boric acid.
25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The composition of claim 24<sub>1</sub> wherein said water is selected from the group consisting of water for injection, irrigation water, distilled water, deionized water and floral water.
26. (CANCELLED)

27. (CANCELLED)